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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/868,243	06/15/2001	Nils Carlin	CARL3003/REF	7055

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EXAMINER

DEVI, SARVAMANGALA J N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1645

DATE MAILED: 01/21/2004

18

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/868,243

Applicant(s)

CARLIN ET AL.

Examiner

S. Devi, Ph.D.

Art Unit

1645

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 5-39 ~~is/are~~ are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 5-39 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

LACK OF UNITY

- 1) A request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.114. Applicants' submission filed on 10/27/03 has been entered.
- 2) Claims 2-4 have been canceled via the amendment filed 10/27/03.
New claims 5-39 have been added via the amendment filed 10/27/03.
Claims 1 and 5-39 are under prosecution.
- 3) It is noted that Applicants have now disclosed five documents via PTO-1449 for consideration.
- 4) **Please Note:** In an effort to enhance communication with our customers and reduce processing time, Group 1640 is running a Fax Response Pilot for Written Restriction Requirements. A dedicated Fax machine is in place to receive your responses. The Fax number is 703-308-4315. A Fax cover sheet is attached to this Office Action for your convenience. We encourage your participation in this Pilot program. If you have any questions or suggestions please contact Paula Hassle, Ph.D., Supervisory Patent Examiner at Paula.Hutzell@uspto.gov or 703-308-4310. Thank you in advance for allowing us to enhance our customer service. Please limit the use of this dedicated Fax number to responses to Written Restrictions.
- 5) The instant application lacks unity under PCT Rule 13.1 and/or 13.2:
 - I. Claims 1 and 5-12, drawn to an oral vaccine comprising at least three different types of CFAs selected from the group consisting of CFA I, CFA II (CS1, CS2 and CS3) and CFA IV (CS4, CS5 and CS6) on killed *E. coli* bacteria lacking LT gene and CTB, but not ST.
 - II. Claims 13-39, drawn to a method of vaccinating against diarrhoea and a method of preventing an enteric infection by administering the vaccine of invention I.
- 6) Inventions I and II lack unity of invention due to the absence of a special technical feature.

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The special technical feature of the instant application is the oral vaccine of invention I. Individually, the product and the method of using the product are a permitted combination of categories under PCT Rule 13.2. However, as evident from at least one of the documents disclosed now to the Office via the information disclosure statement filed 10/27/03, such an oral vaccine was already disclosed in the art. For example, Savarino *et al.* (*J. Infect. Dis.* 177: 796-799, March 1998) disclosed an ETEC/rCTB vaccine comprising formalin-inactivated SBL101, SBL104, SBL106 and SBL 107 ETEC mixed with rCTB, wherein ST is removed. Since the special technical feature was already disclosed in the art, the special technical feature is not a unifying feature. Technically, the absence of a special technical feature would permit the separation of method of using the product from the product itself.

7) Applicants are asked to note that upon election of claim(s) drawn to a product, the corresponding method of use claim(s) will be retained as pending claims pursuant to the rejoinder provisions of M.P.E.P 821.04 and will be withdrawn from consideration until such time as the subject matter of elected product claim(s) are deemed allowable. The Examiner in charge of the instant application will then determine if corresponding method claims include all of the limitations of the allowable product claim(s) prior to determining if rejoinder will be permitted under M.P.E.P 821.04.

8) Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to S. Devi, Ph.D., whose telephone number until January 2004 is (703) 308-9347 and (571) 272-0854 beginning February 2004. A message may be left on the Examiner's voice mail system. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 7.15 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. except one day each bi-week which would be disclosed on the Examiner's voice mail system.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Lynette Smith, can be reached on (703) 308-3909 or (571) 272-0864.

January, 2004


S. DEVI, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER



RESTRICTION ELECTION FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

DATE:

FROM/ATTORNEY:

FIRM:

PAGES, INCLUDING COVERSHEET:

PHONE NUMBER:

TO EXAMINER: S. DEVI, Ph.D.

ART UNIT: 1645

SERIAL NUMBER:

FAX/TELECOPIER NUMBER: (703) 308-4315

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS FACSIMILE NUMBER IS TO BE USED ONLY
FOR RESPONSES TO RESTRICTIONS.**

COMMENTS: _____

IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED ALL THE PAGES OF THIS TRANSMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER LISTED ABOVE.

IN COMPLIANCE WITH 1096 OG 30, THE FILING DATE ACCORDED EACH OFFICIAL FAX TRANSMISSION WILL BE DETERMINED BY THE FAX MACHINE DATE STAMP FOUND ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE TRANSMISSION, UNLESS THAT DATE IS A SATURDAY, SUNDAY, OR FEDERAL HOLIDAY WITHIN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, IN WHICH CASE THE OFFICIAL DATE OF RECEIPT WILL BE THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY.

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